



GOODE NEWS

OCTOBER 2019

Message from the President

Five months have just flown by since the last *Goode News*, so clearly we must be having a good time! A wide range of community activities have contributed to this, many described in this colourful edition of the newsletter.

After months of work by many FBA members, the FBA now has a new constitution or Rules, as they are known under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*. These rules were approved at a Special General Meeting on 19 June at which 19 FBA members discussed and decided upon various changes. The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety approved the new rules on 13 August. If any member would like a copy of the new rules, which at 20 pages are rather more substantial than the old constitution, please email me.

Another successful *Goode Evening* was held on 26 July and is featured below. These events are great fun and reveal the surprising array of talent usually hidden among our membership. In addition to the entertainment, the food and drinks are always excellent, so I urge you not to miss the next one, probably to be held early next year.

The wheels of the WA planning system are still slowly grinding towards consideration of the Lot 660 proposal. The proponents have submitted additional information to the Department and the proposal may come before the WA Planning Commission before the end of this year. We are preparing to send a deputation to the WAPC meeting and may have to move quickly when the item is placed upon the agenda. We are also pursuing discussions with the EPA over our view that they should review the proposal before the WAPC does.

On 11 August, the City of Albany convened a community consultation session about the proposed Frenchman Bay Heritage Trail. The session was well attended and positive and we hope that the Council will now approve the inclusion of our project in their trails strategies. John Myers's article in this *Goode News* will tell you more about it. The item will be presented at the DISC meeting on 13 November and the Council meeting on 26 November if you would like to attend and lend your support.

The Beach and Marine Plastics group has been very active and still has two more sessions to come, on 16 November 2019 and 18 January 2020, so note those dates in your calendar. The energetic weeding collective will also be active again before the end of the year, so keep an eye out for the signs advising where the next session will be held on 8 December.

If I don't see you before Christmas and the New Year—and I hope I will—have a great festive season. I will certainly look forward to seeing you all again at the annual FBA Sundowner on the Australia Day weekend next year.

Catherine Macdonald 0434 148463

Goode Evening III by Marguerite Flynn

An evening of culinary, musical, dramatic and poetic delights was enjoyed by a happy crowd of more than thirty locals and friends on Friday 26 July at the beautiful home of Eve and Tony Kinlay.

Delectable soups, nibbles and desserts (and recipes quickly sought after!) were created by the chefs, led by Chris Hopper and Eve Kinlay, and an array of drinks were served at Tony's bar.

Entertainment for the evening consisted of:

- A short play, (based on a fictionalised episode of Henry Lawson's time in Albany) with Angela Findlay, Marguerite Flynn, Steve Dale, Michael Findlay and Warren Flynn acting the various roles.
- Musical items by Charlie Pierce, 'The Sortofs' (Steve Hopper and Phil Roberts), Freya and Angela Findlay and a singalong by the audience of a song created for the evening.
- A reading by Sarah McNamara from *That Deadman Dance*.
- Poetry presented by Barbara Pierce and Warren Flynn.
- A series of historical and contemporary images of Albany were sourced and projected by Malcolm Traill, from the Albany Museum.



(L) Angela and Freya Findlay. (R) Warren Flynn, Michael Findlay and Steve Dale. Photos by Chris Hopper.



(L) Audience takes a turn to perform. (R) Sarah McNamara. Photos by Chris Hopper.

A raffle to support the EDOWA, organised by Chris Hopper, was won by Phil Roberts.

Before the evening was over, various ideas for future Goode Evenings were already being discussed.

Art from Goode Beach *text and photos by Clare Mitchell*

Continuing with the theme of the artistic talent contained within our community, we had at least three residents of Goode Beach participating in the Southern Art + Craft Trail 2019.



Sue Roberts created exquisite three-dimensional embroidered silk flowers and bowls.



Maggie Myers felted beautiful pictures of our coast including Goode Beach. The soft sand was surely captured.



Clare Mitchell made a flotilla of little boats.



Clare Mitchell crafted a herd of elephants and a crazy bird.

Just before the opening of the Art Trail, Sarah McNamara held an exhibition of her students' work at Flinders Primary School:



Proposed Frenchman Bay Heritage Trail *by John Myers*

The City of Albany held a Community Information Session and called for public comment on this proposed heritage trail at the South Coast Progress Hall in Little Grove on 11 August. The meeting was organised, advertised and the printed information and refreshments provided by Julie-Ann Gray on behalf of the City of Albany with support from the FBA. The FBA provided information boards and were there to answer questions and discuss the proposed trail. The meeting was well attended by people from the Albany region, including a large number from the Goode Beach community and Noongar elders.



FBA and community members discussing the displays.

The Community Information Session was necessary to reactivate the proposed project after two years of dormancy and, once again, be able to recommend the project to the City of Albany. The project stems from the vision and enthusiasm of Max Angus and Richard Vogwill when they were Secretary and President of the FBA. They carried out a substantial amount of research and raised funds (\$22 000 from Lotterywest in 2014) for the preparation of a Feasibility Study that was completed by H+H Architects and the FBA in 2015.



Noongar elders and other community members enjoying the event.

While the City of Albany Council approved the Heritage Trail Feasibility Study and Concept Plan for public advertising in 2017, it was perceived by the City that additional community consultation for the project was required, which has resulted in delays. The proposed trail is not yet included in the City of Albany Trails Hub Strategy; however, the trail *is* included within the broader regional trail strategy/planning being undertaken by the Great Southern Centre of Outdoor Recreation (GSCORE).

Following the Community Information Session and the expiry of the Public Comment Period on 30 August, the public comments have been collated and the proposed trail will be discussed again at a Council Meeting on 26 November, following the election of new Councillors in October. If the trail is approved (again) by Council and allowed to proceed, the FBA will continue the substantial work required and seek funds to bring the trail to fruition.

The proposed heritage trail along Whalers Beach and adjacent scarp would provide a major new visitor attraction that would be freely accessible to people with a wide range of physical ability. The short trail, a circuit of about 2 km, would showcase (via extensive signage and information nodes) the rich history of this small part of Frenchman Bay and would be easily

accessible from existing car parks, facilities and picnic areas. The walk along the beach and adjacent 20 m high terrace that marks a former sea level, would provide good views of many of the historic features and demonstrate the effects of former climate change on sea level.

Interpretive signage would provide information on the occupation of the region by Aboriginal peoples long before the arrival of Europeans and how their societies adapted to changing environments. The notable European history of the area generally begins when the spring at Whalers Beach was first recorded by Vancouver in 1791. This spring was an important source of water for visiting European explorers and later the sole water supply to the town of Albany, shipping and major whaling operations. The trail signage would recall the first surveys and written descriptions of the region by Vancouver, Flinders and Baudin and what they did in the vicinity of Whalers Beach between 1791 and 1803.

The trail would restore access to the dam (now largely overgrown) that was built to facilitate the collection and supply of spring water for shipping, the town of Albany and major whaling operations. The trail signage and information nodes would also highlight:

- the remains of the large Norwegian whaling station at Whalers Beach that operated from 1914 to 1917
- shipwrecks
- the development of tourist facilities beginning in the 1930s.

Without the trail, all of the above history will remain unknown, largely obscured and forgotten.

Bushfire management news by Steve Dale

By now, most Goode Beach residents would have received a letter from the City of Albany describing a project to develop bushfire resilience in the Great Southern.

This project will be a joint venture with the shires of Plantagenet, Denmark and Albany to build bushfire resilience in our region and has specific funding to strengthen community consultation, help identify risk and enable strategies to be developed. Each shire has nominated three at risk areas to target, with Goode Beach, Little Grove and Bayonet Head being the priority communities in the city of Albany.

The FBA have been working to enhance Bushfire Management of Goode Beach, so this project is timely for us to enhance what plans we feel will benefit our residents in the event of fire.

Melanie Haymont, who is based at the Shire of Denmark, has been appointed as Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator for the project. The FBA have had preliminary discussions with Melanie about our desire to engage with this process on behalf of residents and she is very pleased that we are already taking positive steps to develop local strategies. Through these discussions, we will be organising an initial meeting with Melanie and other key people in early November to progress this important plan for our community.

More information about who, when and where this will occur will be sent to FBA members after 26 October. If anyone has something to contribute please let the FBA committee know via our email frenchmanbayassociation@gmail.com.

Collecting Seed from *Banksia grandis* [Bull Banksia] by Chris Hopper



Banksia grandis complete with honey possum. Photos Steve Hopper.

At a recent FBA weeding event, Peter Stewart from the City of Albany Reserves Team, explained to FBA members how to retrieve seed from this showy local banksia. The following photo shows Peter demonstrating how to do this. Have a go, but be careful!

1. Heat cones with a blowtorch or boiling water until the follicles split open.
2. Leave the cone for 2–3 days.
3. Soak it in water for 4–6 hours
4. Dry it in a sunny spot for 4–5 days
5. Repeat the soaking in water for 4–6 hours
6. Dry in a sunny spot until the divider or false seed and the winged seed fall out.



Peter Stewart using a blowtorch to heat a banksia cone. Photo Linda Matthews.

[Repeated soaking and drying may be necessary if the seeds don't fall out of the follicles immediately.]

Frenchman Bay Association Weeding Bees *by Linda Matthews*

The Weeding Bees this year have been well attended with an average of around 14 to 18 people per month willing to come out and whack some weeds. The City has been supportive of our efforts and sends at least one member of their garden maintenance team each month along with a vehicle to take all the weeds away for disposal.

A big project over four months was to eradicate a significant infestation of Sydney Golden Wattle and Victorian Tea Tree in the bushland to the south of the old caravan park site and along the road towards Discovery Bay. As the caravan park is still fenced off and there are massive stands of SGW and tea-tree on that site, we will need to be vigilant for more weeds to jump the fence.



Heroic weeding efforts from FBA members! Photos Linda Matthews.

Other sites to receive attention have been around the rocky reserve in La Perouse Road looking out over Lake Vancouver. The council reserve on the corner of Narvik Street and Karakatta Road were cleaned up in our last weeding bee held on 12 October when we also took the opportunity to plant some local callistemons and melaleucas. Weeding and replanting has also been undertaken in the dunes between the main car park and the steps leading from the court. The bush near the car park at the beach has been tidied up and we can see that our efforts are paying off there as the weeds are not coming back in quite such abundance. This will be the site for our next weeding bee to be held on Saturday 8 December.

Special thanks to all those helpers who brought the most scrumptious morning teas to help feed our volunteers. Example of the array of treats provided below.



Morning tea for Weeding Busy Bee. Photo John Nurick.

Free St John Ambulance Courses for FBA members *by Chris Hopper*

The FBA's successful Lotterywest Heart Grant for two defibrillators for Goode Beach comes with \$600 worth of St John Ambulance First Aid training.

If you are interested doing a course in:

- CPR Training
- Provide First Aid Training and/or
- First Aid for Mental Health Training

contact Chris Hopper on [cghopper@gmail.com or 0498663266].

Update: The City of Albany has installed one of the portable Heart Grant defibrillators on the exterior wall of the recently renovated toilet block at the Goode Beach car park. The installation of the second defib. unit is imminent. It will be mounted on the Emergency Services Shed in Austin Road.

